

# City of Eugene HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION



*The mission of the Human Rights Commission is to promote implementation of universal human rights values and principles in all City of Eugene programs and throughout the wider community.*

*To carry out this mission the commission shall affirm, encourage and initiate programs and services within the City of Eugene and in the wider community designed to place priority upon protecting, respecting, and fulfilling the full range of universal human rights as enumerated in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. To support and promote human rights, the commission will: provide human rights education, be proactive in human rights efforts, address human rights violations, ensure active public participation, be transparent and open, be publicly accountable for human rights progress.*

**Human Rights Commissioners:** Toni Gyatso, Chair, Ken Neubeck, Vice Chair, Iva Boslough, Linda Hamilton, Lorraine Kerwood, Andrew Thomson, Richie Weinman, Denise Griewisch, Chris Nunes

**Equity and Human Rights Center Staff:** Mike Kinnison, Lindsey Foltz, Lorna Flormoe, Erica L. Abbe, Karina Fon, Francisca Leyva Johnson

*The Human Rights Commission meets on the third Tuesday of each month.*

**Tuesday, January 15, 2013**

5:30 – 8:30 PM Meeting

Sloat Room, Atrium Building, 99 West 10th

Contact: Lindsey Foltz, 541-682-5619, [Lindsey.m.foltz@ci.eugene.or.us](mailto:Lindsey.m.foltz@ci.eugene.or.us)

## **ITEM**

## **TIME ON TASK (Starting)**

1. Chair Welcome		5 min.	(5:30 pm)
2. Public Comment		10 min.	(5:35 pm)
3. Agenda Review and Adjustment		5 min	(5:45 pm)
4. Homelessness Committee Recommendation	DISCUSS & VOTE	30 min.	(5:50 pm)
5. Washington/Jefferson Bridge Skate Park Staff Update		30 min.	(6:20 pm)
6. Commissioner Update		30 min.	(6:50 pm)
7. Break		10 min.	(7:20 pm)
8. Martin Luther King Jr. Award	VOTE	10 min.	(7:30 pm)
9. Asian Celebration Volunteers		5 min.	(7:40 pm)
10. Selecting Chairs/Liaisons	DISCUSS & VOTE	30 min.	(7:45 pm)

Upcoming Events, activities or meetings the HRC needs to be aware of:

**Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration: January 21, 2013, 6:00 pm**

**Asian Celebration: February 16 & 17, 2013**

**Human Rights Commission Meeting: February 12, 2013**

*The Eugene Human Rights Commission welcomes your interest in these agenda items. This meeting location is wheelchair accessible. For the hearing impaired, FM-assistive listening devices are available or an interpreter can be provided with 48 hours' notice prior to the meeting. Spanish-language interpretation will also be provided with 48 hours' notice. To arrange for these services, contact staff at 682-5177.*

*La Comisión de Derechos Humanos agradece su interés por participar en los asuntos de esta agenda. El local de la reunión tiene acceso para personas en silla de ruedas. Para las personas con dificultades auditivas ofrecemos sistemas FM para ayudarlo a escuchar, o intérpretes de lenguaje de señas. También ofrecemos intérpretes de español. Si necesita cualquiera de estos servicios por favor solicítelos con 48 horas de anticipación, llamando al (541) 682-5177.*

## **Homelessness Committee Recommendations -**

Upon request of the City Council the Human Rights Commission Homelessness Work Group has drafted the following recommendations for the creation of a Homelessness Committee.

Please carefully review these recommendations and come to the January 15 HRC meeting prepared to discuss and vote on forwarding the recommendations to City Council.

### **Role/Authority**

Standing Council advisory committee

### **Membership**

Nine members

The membership should reflect our community with a particular focus on a balance and diversity of age, socio-economic status, renters and homeowners

The nine seats should aim to represent the following:

HRC Commission member

HSC Commission member

Eugene City Councilor

Health provider/representative (emphasis on mental/behavioral health)

Faith community member

Public Safety representative

Business community representative

Homeless services provider

Homeless advocate

Mayor recommends members/council appoints

Staggered 2-year terms, no term limit, members must re-apply at end of term

### **Meeting Frequency**

Hold meetings 9 times a year, once monthly while Council is in session

### **Scope of work**

Five areas:

1. Current homeless condition evaluation and reporting including researching and compiling a history of local homelessness efforts
2. Ordinance review, local and comparison with other jurisdictions
3. Emerging issues
4. Forum for public input

5. Education and outreach (possibly involving social media, newsletters, op-eds etc.)

Reports annually to City Council to inform Council goal setting and in advance of winter weather, consider September as the reporting month

Establishes work plan annually with considerations about the need for flexibility

**Other Impacts:**

Human Rights Commission to discontinue Homelessness Work Group in favor of representation on and collaboration with this committee

## Martin Luther King Jr. Community Award Nominations –

The deadline for nominations is January 11, 2013. Here's the current list of nominees in the order that they were submitted. A supplement will be sent on January 11 if any more nominations are received.

Please review these nominees and be prepared to vote on the recipient at the January 15 Human Rights Commission Meeting.

### Nominees:

#### 1. Nominee: Joel Ramirez

This young man has one of the most charismatic personalities i have come across in working with youth in the community. He is a proud member of Juventud FACETA; a youth leadership group which promotes immigrant's rights as human rights. He has recruited five other youth and is eager to make a difference in the community and in the hearts of many. I always see this young man do the right thing, weather it is by explaining something to a confused someone or translating for Latinos. He makes me feel very proud of him

Submitted By: Maria Mendez

Email: [memendez25@yahoo.com](mailto:memendez25@yahoo.com)

Phone: 5412328528

1475 Bailey Hill Rd. Apt 129 Eugene OR. 97402

#### 2. Nominee: Paulette Ansari

Paulette is very involved in the community... she is active in the NAACP, ACTSO. She is an African American storyteller and grandmother who volunteers her services in many educational settings (e,g, schools, library) in the area. She is also in the Eugene Storytellers group. She is the president of Skipping Stones Multicultural magazine for the last several years. She writes inspirational and insightful pieces and reviews multicultural books for the magazine. Paulette is a retired librarian who has inspired hundreds of students in Lane County. She is an active participant in the Study Circles that promote respect and understanding of diversity and minorities. A highly deserving candidate.

Submitted By: Arun Toke

Email: [editor@skippingstones.org](mailto:editor@skippingstones.org)

Phone: 541-342-4956

Address: 819 Silver Lane Eugene OR 97404

#### 3. Nominee: Jesus Christ

I nominate Jesus Christ. Jesus has done more for human rights than anyone. I believe even MLK Jr. would have stepped aside and given the award to Jesus if the two were on the same ticket because Jesus is where he got his values. We could honor no one finer.

Submitted By: Bill Northrup  
Email: [blar3@juno.com](mailto:blar3@juno.com)  
Phone 541-915-3778

4. Nominee: Carla D. Gary, J.D., Assistant Vice President for Institutional Equity and Inclusion, and Director of the Oregon Young Scholars Program, University of Oregon

Dr. Gary has provided a strong and stable bridge to the world of higher education for students of color and their families for many years, and has fought to maintain the Oregon Young Scholars program, so that students from less endowed districts can prepare for and succeed at the university.

Submitted By: Cristine Cullinan  
Email: [crisc@uoregon.edu](mailto:crisc@uoregon.edu)  
Phone: 541-346-2961

5. Nominee: Emilio Hernandez, Carla Gary, Tom Ball

I nominate the former vice presidents of the University of Oregon Office of Equity and Inclusion: Emilio Hernandez, Carla Gary, and Tom Ball. These three former U of O officials collectively helped to make the university a more welcoming and inclusive environment by serving as advocates and mentors for students of color. The campus presence of such students has increased markedly over the years they served, to the benefit of not only the university, but also the broader Eugene community in which they have been active participants and contributors. They deserve to be recognized, thanked, and honored for their passionate commitment and hard work to further equity and human rights for communities of color, thereby making Eugene a better place for all.

Submitted By: Ken Neubeck  
Email: [kneubeck@comcast.net](mailto:kneubeck@comcast.net)  
Phone: 541-302-0183

## 2013 Human Rights Commission Liaisons

The Human Rights Commission determines liaisons annually at their January meeting. Please familiarize yourself with the following liaison positions currently maintained by the HRC and come to the January 15 meeting prepared to discuss filling all of the positions.

Name of Group	Description	Time Commitment	Currently Held By and When Appt.	Connection to Work Plan
<b>LIAISONS FROM HRC TO OTHER BOARDS, COMMITTEES OR COMMISSIONS</b>				
<b>Police Commission</b>	<b>Mission:</b> The Police Commission mission is to recommend to the City Council, the City Manager, the Police Department, and the people, the resources, preferred policing alternatives, policies and citizens' responsibilities needed to achieve a safe community. We strive to create a climate of mutual respect and partnership between the community and the Police Department that helps achieve safety, justice and freedom for all people in Eugene.	Meets monthly 2 <sup>nd</sup> Thursday, 5:30 – 8:30 p. This has a term of 4 years or as long as a single commissioner term - typically 3 years.	Linda Hamilton, Appointed 2010  Back up: Ken Neubeck	Goal 1 Objective 1.2  Goal 2 Objective 2.4  Goal 3 Objective 3.5
<b>Community Development Block Grant</b>	<b>Info:</b> Eugene receives federal funds which are awarded to agencies that support a variety of community needs related to housing and other issues. During an annual competitive process, applicants vie for CDBG funding for specific projects.	2 hour monthly meetings typically during 6 months out of the year, when they are working on funds distribution and projects. Additional meetings and trainings throughout the year as necessary. 1 year term, 3 term limit.	Linda Hamilton, Appointed 2010  Back up: Toni Gyatso	Goal 2 Objective 2.10

<b>Council Liaison</b>	City Councilor Liaison from HRC to City Council	1 year, appointed by Mayor	Vacant	Goal 2 Objective 2.1
<b>Meet with City Manager and Mayor</b>	Mayor and City Manager meet with HRC Chairs and Equity and Human Rights staff	2 hours quarterly	Chair and Vice Chair	Goal 2 Objective 2.1 Objective 2.2
<b>Civilian Review Board</b>	To increase public transparency and public confidence in the police complaint process. We evaluate the work of the independent Police Auditor, from a civilian perspective, about whether the complaint was handled fairly and with due diligence.	Meets monthly, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday, 3 hours	Primary: Vacant Back up: Vacant	Goal 2 Objective 2.8
<b>E&amp;HR Board</b>	Help guide the work of the DESP	2 hour meetings every other month - daytime	Primary: Ken Neubeck Back Up: Toni Gyatso	Goal 2 Objective 2.3
<b>Accessibility Advisory Group</b>		Meets September-May 2 hour meetings, daytime	Primary: Andrew Thomson	
<b>LIAISONS FROM OTHER BOARDS, COMMITTEES OR COMMISSIONS TO HRC</b>				
<b>Eugene Police Dept.</b>	Provide public safety services to the community		Sgt. David Natt <a href="mailto:David.M.Natt@ci.eugene.or.us">David.M.Natt@ci.eugene.or.us</a>	Goal 2 Objective 2.2  Goal 3 Objectives 3.4; 3.5
<b>Human Resources</b>			Becky Dewitt <a href="mailto:Becky.l.dewitt@ci.eugene.or.us">Becky.l.dewitt@ci.eugene.or.us</a>	Goal 2 Objective 2.2

<b>Civilian Review Board</b>	To increase public transparency and public confidence in the police complaint process. We evaluate the work of the independent Police Auditor, from a civilian perspective, about whether the complaint was handled fairly and with due diligence.		Dr. Snell Fontus <a href="mailto:fontus@sprynet.com">fontus@sprynet.com</a>	Goal 2 Objectives 2.2; 2.8
<b>Sustainability Commission Liaison</b>	The Sustainability Commission works to create a healthy community now and in the future by proposing measurable solutions to pressing environmental, social and economic concerns to the City of Eugene, its partners and its people.		Steve Newcomb <a href="mailto:Steven.newcomb@eweb.org">Steven.newcomb@eweb.org</a>	Goal 2 Objectives 2.2; 2.5

*Reports are expected from liaisons to keep the full HRC updated on any issues with the groups you are working with. You are representing the Commission, so please check in with the group.*

## 2013 Chair and Vice Chair Elections

Please read the following excerpt from the HRC by-laws regarding the Chair and Vice Chair elections and be prepared to nominate and vote for these positions in the January meeting.

### ARTICLE IV. OFFICERS AND DUTIES

**Section 1.** The officers of the commission shall be a chairperson and a vice-chair elected by the commission from among the members of the commission. To be eligible for chair nomination a commissioner must have served on the Human Rights Commission at least one (1) year.

**Section 2.** Any commissioner may nominate a candidate from the commission for the position of chair or vice-chair. Nominations need not be seconded.

**Section 3.** A member may decline nomination because of an inability to serve, but may not withdraw in favor of another member.

**Section 4.** Any member may move to close the nominations; a second is required. If the motion carries, the chair then calls for the election.

**Section 5.** The votes of all commission members will be recorded by the minutes recorder. The candidate who receives a majority of the votes cast becomes the new chair. In the event that no candidate receives a majority of the votes cast, a run-off election shall be held between the two candidates receiving the most votes. The same procedure is followed for the election of the vice-chair.

**Section 6.** The chair and vice chair shall serve for one (1) year. The election will be held no later than the commission's regular meeting in January. If the chair cannot serve a full term, the vice chair shall assume the office for the remainder of the chair's term. If the vice chair cannot serve a full term, the commission shall, at the meeting in which the resignation is received, or the vice chair is removed, elect a new vice chair to complete the unexpired term. If both chair and vice chair vacate their respective offices prior to the end of their terms, elections must be held at the following meeting to fill both offices.

**Section 7.** Commissioners may not be elected as chair for more than two

(2) successive terms.

**Section 8.** The chair shall preside at all meetings of the commission; call special meetings subject to requirements of Article VI; consult with staff on preparation of commission agendas; and perform all other duties necessary or incidental to the office.

**Section 9.** The vice-chair shall perform the duties of the chairperson in the absence or inability of the chairperson.

**Section 10.** The chair and vice chair are entitled to vote on all issues.

**Section 11.** The chair or chair's designee is the official spokesperson for the commission on all matters of community that concern the commission. This includes media inquiries.

**Section 12.** The chair and vice-chair shall: a) conduct orientation of new commission members b) assist with educating commission members on procedures and responsibilities c) at the request of the commission, prepare recommendations on commission bylaws and other administrative matters